

REMARKS

Reconsideration and allowance of the application on the basis of the foregoing amendments and for other reasons are respectfully requested.

Seven claims (2 - 6, 18, and 26) are pending in the application. Claims 2 - 6 stand rejected. Claims 18 and 26 are allowed. Nineteen claims (1, 7 - 17, and 19 - 25) stand canceled.

Claims 2 - 6 stand rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Park (6,272,697) in view of Perlman (4,998,006); the Examiner stating inter alia that "Park teaches a portable compact sauna 10 for causing a user to sweat, infrared source elements 70 safe to touch disposed in close proximity about the user so infrared absorbed by the user constitutes the primary means for inducing the user to sweat". However, Park does not teach a protrusioned infrared source, nor that the infrared absorbed by the user constitutes the primary means for inducing the user to sweat.

Park employs heating means 44 (Fig. 2) formed of a heating sheet 45 for connection to an external power source, an infrared generating means 70 that is carbon-coated and disposed on a heating emitting sheet 45 that is activated by a conductive line 72 connected at each side thereof, and a cover layer 74 coating the infrared means 70 but having a plurality of through holes 70.

Applicants have amended claim 2, the base claim for claims 2 - 6, to distinguish clearly over Park in view of Perlman. Thus the "continuously-active broad infrared source elements safe to touch disposed in close proximity about the user so that infrared radiation absorbed by the user constitutes the primary means for inducing the user to sweat and uniformly about the user so that the user is evenly heated" are now specified as being "protrusioned" and "of a low heat conductance material". As amended that claim 2 clause now reads: "continuously-active broad but protrusioned infrared source elements of a low heat conductance material safe to touch disposed in close proximity about the

user so that infrared radiation absorbed by the user constitutes the primary means for inducing the user to sweat and uniformly about the user so that the user is evenly heated'. The infrared generating means 70 of Park is not "protrusioned" nor specified as made "of a low heat conductance material". And Perlman does not make up for these deficiencies of Park.

It should also be observed that Park does not teach that his infrared generating means 70 "constitutes the primary means for inducing the user to sweat". It may well be that his heating emitting sheet 45 constitutes the primary means for inducing the user to sweat!

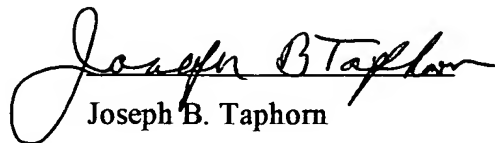
Thus claims 2-6 as amended clearly are now doubly patentable over Park in view of Perlman.

Claim 3 has been slightly amended in view of the "protrusioned" amendment to claim 2, for antecedent purposes.

Claims 3 - 6 distinguish further patentably over the art for the limitations contained in them.

Wherefore applicants believe that the rejected claims are now allowable too, and that this application has been placed in condition for allowance, which favorable action at an early date is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Joseph B. Taphorn".

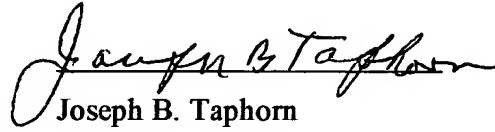
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